

# Practice Questions



1. A patron really enjoyed *Peace Like a River* by Lief Enger? Can you find other titles like this one the patron may enjoy? From past conversations with the patron you know they enjoy books about coming of age that take place in small towns in the Midwest.
2. Find a list of books that take place in Nebraska.
3. Can you come up with a list of 25 to 50 other books you can recommend to a young adult reader who enjoyed the *Book Thief* by Markus Zusak?
4. What is the sixth book in the Temperance Brennan series by Kathy Reichs?
5. One of your patrons really enjoys reading mysteries set in the Victorian period. Can you locate a list of potential books he may be interested in? Try using the browse and refine results options to answer this question.



6. A patron recently became interested in vegetarian cooking. The library does not own any vegetarian cookbooks however you tell him about Interlibrary Loan and he is very excited about this option. Can you provide him with a list of titles he can potentially ILL?
7. You would like to purchase some current (this year) young adult fiction books. To make your decision on what to buy easier you would like to generate a list of titles that are in print and have been reviewed in *School Library Journal*. How do you go about generating this list?
8. Western audio books on CD have become popular in your library. You would like to add some new adult titles to your collection. You have no idea what to buy so you would like to find titles that have been reviewed. How can you find this information?
9. A while back on NPR they mentioned a book about Bananas. Can you help me find the name of the book? (This question is tricky so don't give up right away!)
10. You would like to purchase some board books about animals for the kids. Can you come up with a list of titles that are fairly current, in print and have been reviewed?



1. A patron really enjoyed *Peace Like a River* by Lief Enger? Can you find other titles like this one the patron may enjoy? From past conversations with the patron you know they enjoy books about coming of age that take place in small towns in the Midwest.

Enter *Peace Like a River* in the search box and click Go. Locate the record for the book then click on the Find Similar button located next to it. This should return about 57,000 results. Now use the Find Similar tab on the left hand side of the screen to further narrow your result list. Select Genre: coming of age and Location: Midwest (U.S.)

2. Find a list of books that take place in Nebraska.

To answer this question first look at the location tab on the main page. Nebraska does not appear on this tab so you will need to click on the Click here to view all topics link, located towards the bottom right hand corner of the page. Click on the green location tab and then click on N. This will jump you down the page to the start of the N's. Look through the list until you locate Nebraska. Click on Nebraska.

3. Can you come up with a list of 25 to 50 other books you can recommend to a young adult reader who enjoyed the *Book Thief* by Markus Zusak?

Enter *Book Thief* in the search box and click on Search. Locate the record for the book then click on the Find Similar button located next to it. This should return 21,000 or so results. Now use the Find Similar tab on the left hand side of the screen or the Refine results by on the right hand side of the screen to further narrow your result list. Keep your patron in mind and select any combination until you have a result list of 50 titles or less.

4. What is the sixth book in the Temperance Brennan series by Kathy Reichs?

There are a couple of ways to answer this question. One way is to search for Kathy Reichs and locate one of the books in the series. When a book is part of a series the series name will be next to the author's name. Click on this link to see a list of titles in series order. The other option is to search for Temperance Brennan. The first record is the series record. Click on series name to see a list of the titles in series order.

5. One of your patrons really enjoys reading mysteries set in the Victorian period. Can you locate a list of potential books he may be interested in? Try using the browse and refine results options to answer this question.

There are two ways to go about answering this question. One way is to go to the Genre tab on the main page and select Mystery. This should retrieve about 15,000 titles. In the Refine results by area on the left side of the screen locate the Timeframe heading and click on the more... link. This should open a new window. You can either look through the list until you find the Victorian period or click on the Sort Alphabetically link. You should then be able to find the Victorian period under the V's. After locating the Victorian period click on it. This should return you to the search results screen where you'll have a list of 300+ titles.

6. A patron recently became interested in vegetarian cooking. The library does not own any vegetarian cookbooks however you tell him about Interlibrary Loan and he is very excited about this option. Can you provide him with a list of titles he can potentially ILL?

On the main PBIP page locate the Browse area on the right hand side of the screen. Click on Cooking. The next screen will display a list of subcategories. Click on Vegetarian. You can now browse the list of books.

7. You would like to purchase some current (this year) young adult fiction books. To make your decision on what to buy easier you would like to generate a list of titles that are in print and have been reviewed in School Library Journal. How do you go about generating this list?

You will need to use the advanced search page to answer this question. A link to the Advanced Search screen is located under the Quick Search box that is located at the top right hand side of most pages. On the advanced search screen scroll down to the Limit Your Results Area and make the following selections.

Status: Active  
Audience: Young Adult  
Subject Limiter: Fiction  
Publication Year: 2008  
Reviewed by the following Sources: Sch Lib Journal

Click Search. You can now browse the list of books.

8. Western audio books on CD have become popular in your library. You would like to add some new adult titles to your collection. You have no idea what to buy so you would like to find titles that have been reviewed. How can you find this information?

You will need to use the advanced search page to answer this question. (See the answer to question ten if you need help locating the Advanced Search screen.) Enter the following information on the Advanced Search screen.

**Search On/Search For:** Keyword in Subject: Westerns  
**Status:** Active  
**Publication Year:** 2005-2006  
**Audience:** Adult  
**Format:** Audio Book  
**Binding Format:** Compact Disc

Click **Search**. You can now browse the list of books.

9. A while back on NPR they mentioned a book about Bananas. Can you help me find the name of the book? (This question is tricky so don't give up right away!)

This question is a bit tricky because the title of the book has the word banana in it not bananas. It should be easy to find after you know that. Using the advanced search screen do a Keyword in title search for banana. Under Mentioned in the Following Media select National Public Radio. You should find the book *Banana: The Fate of the Fruit That Changed the World*.

10. You would like to purchase some board books about animals for the kids. Can you come up with a list of titles that are fairly current, in print and have been reviewed?

You will need to use the advanced search page again to answer this question. Enter the following information on the Advanced Search screen.

**Search On/Search For:** Keyword in Subject: animals

**Status:** Active

**Publication Year:** 2008

**Audience:** Children

**Binding Format:** Board Books

**Reviewed by the Following Sources:** Any Source

Click **Search**. You can now browse the list of books.